

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-06

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DRAFTED BY OES/APT/BMP:CGORSEY:LER

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CU:DSCHERR (PHONE)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SP, TGEN

SUBJECT: S AND T PROGRAM

REF: STATE 204060

1. LIKELY THAT DEPARTMENT MAY RECEIVE \$1.2 MILLION OF THE \$3 MILLION FIFTH AND FINAL TRANCHE OF THE FORMER US-SPAIN AGREEMENT PRIOR TO END OF TRANSITIONAL QUARTER, SEPT. 30. \$1 MILLION OF THE 1.2 MILLION CONSIGNED FOR E & C PROGRAM AND CU WILL HAVE NO DIFFICULTY IN OBLIGATING THIS PART PRIOR TO 9/30. HOWEVER \$200,000 WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR S&T PROGRAM AND WHILE NEEDS EXIST FOR THESE FUNDS, PROBLEM WOULD BE TO GET VALID OBLIGATION PRIOR TO SEPT. 30 BY CONCLUDING AGREEMENT WITH IMPLEMENTING US FEDERAL AGENCY AND OBTAINING GOS APPROVAL OF PROPOSED USE. FUNDS WILL LAPSE UNLESS OBLIGATED.

2. POSSIBLE USE OF S&T PORTION INCLUDES:

(A) FUNDING ORDERLY TERMINATION OF NSF ADMINISTERED
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PROJECTS. NSF ADVISES THAT IT COULD USE FUNDS IN THE

\$200,000 RANGE FOR THIS PURPOSE PROVIDED GOS WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION, HOWEVER IN LIGHT OF MIN EDUCATION AND SCIENCE HOLD ON NSF ADMINISTERED FRONTIERS OF SCIENCE PROGRAM (REF) THIS MAY BE PROBLEM.

(B) DURING HIS CONSULTATION SCIATT MENTIONED URGENT FUNDING NEED TO (1)KEEP BUREC WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT TEAM INTACT AND (2) CONTINUE OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH PROGRAM.

BOTH THESE PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY NSF, BUT NEITHER UNDER MES SUPERVISION.

3. ANOTHER POSSIBILITY IS THAT CU COULD COMMIT ADDITIONAL \$200,000 FOR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM SINCE MAJOR PART OF SCHOLARSHIPS ARE FOR S&T STUDY.

4. REQUEST THAT EMBASSY ADVISE ASAP. ROBINSON

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